

Roosevelt Plan Revolutionary

Fight in the Convention from
Drop of Hat.

ROLL CALL IS FIRST MOVE

Attempt to Have the Temporary Roll
As Made Up by the National
Committee Rejected by
the Convention.

Chicago, June 18.—Desertions from the Taft camp were reported from ten additional states, and authenticated in five of these. According to figures in possession of the column's managers, Taft already has lost and Roosevelt gained sixty-seven votes from Louisiana, Virginia, Tennessee, Florida, New Mexico, South Carolina, Missouri, Mississippi, Georgia and New York.

Chicago, June 18.—The doors of the great Coliseum convention hall were thrown open to the public at 10 a. m. today, but the convention proper was not called to order until noon. At that hour Victor Rosewater, acting chairman of the Republican national committee called the delegates to order. Prayer was offered by the Rev. James P. Callahan of St. Malachy's Roman Catholic church, after which Fred Upham, of the Chicago convention committee presented Mr. Rosewater with a gavel. This was followed by the reading of the official call for the convention by Temporary Secretary LaFayette B. Gleason.

The Roosevelt supporters have determined that the convention shall not be organized with the contested delegates seated by the national committee, and to this end they have determined to demand a roll call on the first proposition that comes up.

This undoubtedly will come on the right of Governor Johnson of California to cast the twenty-six votes of that state on the question of temporary chairman.

This right will be questioned by the two Taft delegates from the Fourth California district. Then will come the move which the Roosevelt leaders have planned.

They will move at once that the temporary roll as made up by the national committee be rejected and that a substitute roll prepared by the Roosevelt men be adopted. This roll will include the seventy to eighty delegates which Colonel Roosevelt claims were stolen from him and which would be sufficient to give the Roosevelt forces control of the convention.

Under this plan of procedure—submitting the contests to the convention en bloc—none of the delegates affected by the contests could vote. Under customary rules, passing upon the contests state by state, one contested state might pass upon the right of another.

The Roosevelt plan is a revolutionary one. It will be opposed bitterly by the Taft leaders, but it will serve the purpose of bringing the fight quickly to the front, and this is what the Roosevelt leaders desire.

Colonel Roosevelt conferred for more than an hour with Chairman Victor Rosewater of the national committee, who sought the interview. Mr. Rosewater explained to the colonel that in making rulings in the national committee on contest cases he had followed the parliamentary practice that had always governed the deliberations of that body.

Colonel Roosevelt directed severe criticism against individual members of the committee, but Mr. Rosewater said to have escaped these strictures. Finally the colonel demanded to know what Mr. Rosewater's attitude would be when the Roosevelt forces proposed to substitute a new temporary roll for that prepared by the committee.

"The rules of the committee will apply," answered Mr. Rosewater.

When asked if he would not consent to submit the question to the convention, Mr. Rosewater is said to have asked for time in which to consider the question. It is expected that he will confer with his associates early tomorrow. It is not believed he will grant the demand of the Roosevelt people.

In a public statement Colonel Roosevelt analyzed the delegates to the Republican national convention by pointing out that a large proportion of President Taft's admitted strength lies in territory which casts no Republican electoral vote. Roosevelt asserted that he had carried twenty-one of the thirty-three states casting electoral votes for him in 1904. He charged that the Taft forces had used federal patronage to defeat him in the present contest and that the Republican national committee had committed "theft" in unseating Roosevelt delegates from Texas, Washington and elsewhere.

Mr. Roosevelt attacked individual members of the committee for this action, particularly those from states he carried in recent primaries.

"All of the influence of the federal patronage in the Democratic states and all of the influence of the combined bosses and moneyed interests in the Republican states which did not hold primaries could not together bring Mr. Taft anywhere near a nomination," reads the Roosevelt statement.

"His representatives on the national committee have sought to supply the

HISTORY MAKERS

Some of the Men Prominent
at the Republican Convention.



deficiency by stealing from me seventy or eighty delegates to which he has not the slightest claim in law or morals. There has been no more discreditable action ever performed in our political history. It is disgraceful to those who took part in it and to every man who in any shape or way condoned or hoped to profit by it."

The Taft leaders, commenting upon this statement, pointed out that neither could be nominated without the support of the southern delegates.

Automobile Thieves Sentenced.
Grand Rapids, Mich., June 18.—George Smeeman and Ainsley Lathbert, two joy riders who stole six autos in two weeks, were sentenced to from six months to two years at Ionia. The court recommended a maximum of one year.

CONVENTION IS IMPORTANT ONE

Fight Without Parallel Is On
In Chicago.

LINE-UP OF THE CANDIDATES

To a Disinterested Observer the Affair
Possesses the Aspect of an Irre-
sistible Force Meeting an
Immovable Body.

Chicago, June 18.—The Republican convention is the most important assemblage of the representatives of that party that has taken place since the nomination of Lincoln in 1860. It is important for two reasons:

First because it has to adjudicate again the question as to whether or not one man shall be nominated for a third term as president of the United States. Second, because it is threatened by the most violent and far-reaching schism that ever divided not alone the leaders, but the rank and file of an American political party.

To the disinterested observer the whole affair possesses some of the aspects of an irresistible force meeting an immovable body.

When the Republican national committee finished its work the strength of the respective candidates for president was as follows:

Taft, 568; Roosevelt, 464; LaFollette, 36; Cummins, 10; total, 1,078.

After authorized changes the best poll of the strength of the respective candidates, irrespective of enthusiastic and unsupported claims, is as follows:

Taft, 547; Theodore Roosevelt, 479; Robert M. LaFollette, 36; Albert B. Cummins, 10; Charles E. Hughes, 4; Robert A. Lincoln, 2; total, 1,078.

Necessary to choice, 540.

President Taft, it will be noted, has lost 19 votes. Timothy L. Woodruff of Brooklyn, authorized an official statement that he had changed from Taft to Roosevelt. Five delegates from Mississippi announced that they had changed from Taft to Roosevelt and seven delegates from Georgia announced that they changed from Taft to Roosevelt.

The two votes in the Illinois delegation which were for President Taft changed to Lincoln, four delegates from New York, hitherto credited to President Taft, announced they would vote for Associate Justice Hughes. They are Frank M. Hugo of Watertown, of the Thirty-second district of New York; Frederick C. Stevens of Attica, Thirty-ninth district; William H. Daniels of Buffalo, Fourth district, and Frank C. Anderson of Jamestown, in the Forty-third congressional district.

President Taft has, therefore, seven votes more than necessary to nominate him, while Ex-President Roosevelt is sixty-one votes short of nomination.

Director William B. McKinley of the Taft bureau declared that President Taft will have 590 votes in the convention and will be nominated on the first ballot.

"President Taft," continued Mr. McKinley, "will have a plurality of 148 votes over Mr. Roosevelt and a clear majority over all candidates. Mr. Taft cannot now be defeated for the nomination."

Atwood News.

W. D. Jones is very ill and has been for four weeks.

Warren Belov has gone to Asheville, N. C., to attend a meeting of the Y. M. C. A.

Miss Pearl Harwood, who has been teaching in Oklahoma, has returned home to spend the vacation.

Miss Hallie McKinney left Monday to attend the summer school at Knoxville.

Miss Capitola McCollum, who has been teaching in the north side high school at Little Rock, Ark., for the past year, has returned home. Miss McCollum was also instructor in grammar, composition and literature in the institute, which was in session after the close of school.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roberson, of Lavinia, visited the family of W. D. Jones Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Zeph Gilkey, of Trezevant, visited here Saturday and Sunday.

Ribs Broken.

W. F. McAuley, of the Twenty-fourth district, while scraping cotton last week, suffered a painful accident. His plow struck a root and one of the handles struck Mr. McAuley in the side breaking or tearing loose one or more ribs. While very painful yet the hurt was not serious.

Democratic National Convention at Baltimore on June 25

HARMON. UNDERWOOD. CLARK.



BALDWIN. WILSON. MARSHALL.

Photo of Underwood © by Harris & Ewing. Photos of Harmon, Clark and Wilson © by American Press Association.

Fifth Regiment Armory in City Famous For Conventions of the
Past Will Seat Twenty Thousand People—The Leading
Candidates—William Jennings Bryan a Delegate.

By WALTON WILLIAMS.

FOR the first time in forty years a national convention of one of the leading parties is to be held in Baltimore. In the old days the Maryland metropolis was the convention city of the country, even more so than Chicago is now. But with the movement of population westward the big town at the head of the Chesapeake lost her political primacy.

Almost from the day that the convention system came into vogue in American politics Baltimore forged to the front as the leading national convention town. Perhaps one reason was that she was situated midway between the north and the south. Another was that she was one of the largest cities in the country. A third was her proximity to the national capital, Baltimore even now speaking of Washington as a suburb. A fourth was her hospitality. She makes every guest feel that he is one of her "old folks" and that she is at his service to entertain and make him feel at home. No trouble is too great for her to take in his behalf. Subtly, but without flattery, she gives him the delightful impression that he has a distinguished place in her regard. With a fine old southern courtesy about which there is no stiffness or formality and with a gracefulness about which there is no pretense, she lends a new meaning to the word "welcome."

President Jackson was nominated in Baltimore in 1822 as was Van Buren, not only for the campaign of 1836, when he was elected, but for that of 1840, when he was defeated by William Henry Harrison. In 1844 both conventions met in the Maryland metropolis, that of the Whigs naming Henry Clay and that of the Democrats choosing James K. Polk. Four years later the Democrats again assembled in Baltimore, nominating Lewis Cass.

Split on Slavery.

Both the Whig and Democratic conventions of 1852 were held in Baltimore, the respective candidates there chosen being General Winfield Scott and General Franklin Pierce. In 1856 the Democratic convention met in Charleston, but split on the slavery question, and both wings later assembled in Baltimore, placing two tickets in the field, one headed by Stephen A. Douglas and the other by John C. Breckinridge. This split marked the end of Democratic ascendancy in the government for a period of twenty-four years. President Lincoln was re-nominated in Baltimore in 1864, and in 1872 the Democratic convention in the same city endorsed Horace Greeley, who had previously been named by the Liberal Republicans. That was the last great national convention held in Baltimore until this year.

It would be a strange coincidence if the city that saw the division of the Democratic party in 1860, a division that drove it from power practically for fifty years, should this year witness it completely reunited and ready to return to power for an indefinite period because of the division of the Republicans. Yet this very result is among the possibilities.

The Democratic convention will be held in the Fifth regiment armory,

which is Baltimore's largest auditorium. The vaulted roof of this great building is more than 100 feet above the main floor. The drill room, in which the convention will be held, is capable of seating 12,000 persons without crowding. Its dimensions are 200 by 300 feet, giving 60,000 square feet of floor space. There are already two balconies, and by building raised platforms at the ends of the hall it is expected that 20,000 persons can be accommodated at the sessions of the convention. There are twenty-one smaller rooms about the building that can be used for committee and press rooms. The armory is situated in the northern part of the city near the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio stations and within fifteen minutes' ride from the business section where most of the hotels are situated.

It will be an inspiring scene when at high noon of June 25 the gavel falls calling to order the Democratic national convention of 1912—inspiring, because of the rosy prospects of victory for the first time in twenty years, inspiring because at last Democratic principles are coming into general acceptance even by its political foes and inspiring because of the historic associations. Casting its eyes at Washington—if a convention has eyes to cast—it will behold the house of representatives overwhelmingly Democratic and only a narrow margin in the way of controlling the senate. Looking farther afield, it will see Democratic governors of twenty-seven states, fourteen of them being northern states. As these are only forty-eight states altogether, that is quite a healthy minority. It will see a section of the Republicans more favorable to Democratic principles than to the other wing of their own party. It will behold a vast majority of the people favorable to tariff reduction and other Democratic planks.

Four Presidents Named in Baltimore.

National conventions did not come into vogue until about 1832, and since that time the Democratic party has held twenty. This year it will meet in the city where at least eight of these twenty have convened and where four Democratic presidents, Jackson, Van Buren, Polk and Pierce, were nominated. Thus the Baltimore meeting will suggest a great past, a harmonious present and a bright future. That sort of a happy combination has not been so frequent in recent Democratic history as to have become monotonous.

The convention will be called to order by Norman E. Mack, chairman of the Democratic national committee, likewise chairman of the committee on arrangements. Mr. Mack has had an embarrassment of jobs lately, having also been chairman of the New York state committee. Each one of these places is a man's job, and not being able to be three men at one time, Mack resigned the New York state chairmanship, which went to George M. Palmer of Schenectady.

The committee on arrangements has charge of all details for the convention, including the selection of a temporary chairman, settling contests for making up the temporary roll, decorating, furnishing and seating the hall, printing and distributing the tickets and badges

providing for music, appointing door-keepers and sergeants-at-arms, looking out for the press, getting a first aid corps of nurses and physicians and doing the thousand and one other things preliminary to the holding of a national convention.

The music of the Republican and Democratic gatherings will not be largely different, except that "Dixie" will be more prominently at Baltimore than at Chicago and "Marching Through Georgia" decidedly will not. If Chap Clark is nominated the "Houn' Blues" song will also be a maddening favorite at Baltimore. Just as "Old Nassau" will if Governor Woodrow Wilson gets the upper hand. "Maryland, My Maryland," will be torn into ribbons by the bands at Baltimore wherever the nominee may be.

Historical Background.

"The Star Spangled Banner" should also come in for a turn at the Democratic gathering since it was at Baltimore more the song was written. It was composed during the war of 1812, the centenary of whose beginning occurs just



© 1912, by American Press Association.
JOHN BURKE, WHO HAS NORTH DAKOTA'S DELEGATES.

one week before the assembling of the Democratic cohorts. That war was prosecuted by a Democratic administration headed by James Madison, and its chief hero was General Andrew Jackson, for whom many Democrats have continued voting to this day. Opposition to that war killed the Federalist party, which was in a sense a progenitor of the modern Republican party. There is plenty of historic background for the Baltimore convention.

Delegates and visitors will see a very different city from that which greeted those attending conventions of old. While Baltimore has not gone up by the leaps and bounds marking the progress of many other American cities, her growth has been healthy and steady. The great fire wrought a complete change in the appearance of the business portion of the Maryland metropolis. As fearful as that catastrophe was, it has proved in many ways a blessing in disguise. The portion of the city that has been rebuilt is more modern in appearance, with wider, lighter and better paved streets, better and more up to date construction and, as a result of the spirit engendered to recover from the shock, a more determined and progressive business community. The spirit of the new Baltimore was exemplified by the men who made the successful bid for this gathering. They had such competitors as Chicago and St. Louis, with New York and Denver also in the running. It was a certified check for \$100,000 with a promise of a supplementary sum of \$15,000 to take care of convention expenses which won for the Maryland city.

Great Attendance Expected.

The Baltimore committee, having the fight in charge frankly admitted that their chief reason for desiring the convention was the advertising it would give to Baltimore. That argues a public spirit which will go far toward building a bigger and better city. As already suggested, the citizens generally share this spirit and have thrown open their homes in order that the great crowds attending the gathering may have ample accommodations. Baltimore is in the midst of a most populous section, and multiplied thousands are expected from New York, Philadelphia, the Eastern Shore and the south. With her reputation for hospitality as a pledge, Baltimore promises to take care of them all.

As for the convention itself, that is another story. It is yet too early to make an intelligent prediction as to the standard bearer it will choose. The Democrats are frank in saying that this will depend in some measure on the action of the Republicans. Even with the opposition ticket named the Baltimore convention will have to go through an elimination contest, as no candidate yet has the two-thirds majority necessary to nominate. The basis of representation is the same as that of the Republicans, with the exception that each of the dependencies is allowed six delegates in place of two. This will make sixteen more delegates or 1,002, if New Mexico is allowed but six, or 1,004 if she has eight. In the last named event 799 will be required to nominate.

Of instructed and pledged delegates no one will have that number or even a majority on the first ballot. Not until the favorite sons are eliminated and the unattached delegates settle on their choice will the winner be known.

As matters now stand Champ Clark is in the lead, with Governor Woodrow Wilson in second place. In a break-up it is generally believed that the votes of Oscar Underwood and possibly of some of the other minor candidates would go to Clark. The other avowed candidates are Governors Harmon of Ohio, Marshall of Indiana, Baldwin of Connecticut and Burke of North Dakota.

One factor must not be lost sight of. William Jennings Bryan is a delegate at Baltimore, and there is no telling what another "cross of gold" speech might do.